

Ford Forbids C.I.A. to Act Illegally in Domestic Field

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By JOHN HERBERS
Special to The New York Times

VAIL, Colo., Dec. 22—President Ford said today that he had informed the Central Intelligence Agency he would not tolerate the agency conducting any intelligence operation within the United States in violation of its charter.

Mr. Ford made the statement in response to reporters' questions aboard his Presidential jet as he flew here from Washington for a 10-day vacation.

He said he had had some "partial information" about alleged domestic activities by the C.I.A. under the Nixon Administration.

The President said he had informed the agency that "this Administration would not tolerate it." He said that after reading a report of alleged domestic operations by the C.I.A. in The New York Times this morning, he received a call aboard the plane from William E. Colby, the Director of Central Intelligence, who assured him that

"nothing comparable" to what was described in the article was going on now.

"I told him under no circumstances would I tolerate any such activities under this Administration," he said.

On Security Council

Mr. Ford has been President since Aug. 9, when he succeeded Richard M. Nixon, who was forced to resign as a result of the Watergate scandals. Prior to that, he was Vice President for eight months and a member of the National Security Council.

Mr. Ford, however, was not clear on several points. He did not say when he had learned of the alleged illegal operation, how much he knew about the extent or nature of the alleged violations, or what steps, if any, he may have taken to find out who was responsible.

He did not comment on the Times information that the agency kept 10,000 files on persons alleged to be involved in the antiwar movement. The C.I.A. charter bars the agency from domestic intelligence work.

Following is a transcript of

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the questions and answers aboard the plane:

Q. Mr. President, did you see the story on the C.I.A. in the—

A. I read it there hurriedly. I got a call on the plane this morning from Bill Colby reassuring me that nothing comparable to what was stated in the article was going on over there, and I told him that under no circumstances would I tolerate any such activities under this Administration.

Q. Are they allowed to have any internal intelligence activities?

A. They have a very specific charter and they should live up to the charter.

Q. Did you learn about this activity before it appeared in The New York Times?

A. I had some partial information.

Q. Have you done anything about it?

A. Well, at that time I indicated what I said here, that this Administration would not tolerate it and I was assured it did not exist.

The questioning then turned to another subject and the C.I.A. matter was not brought up again during the President's brief appearance before reporters aboard the plane.

why not hear all of?

not responsive